

ANTARCTICA - ANTARCTICA CLASSIC | MS EXPEDITION



INTRODUCTION


A true adventure to the world's most remote wilderness, a world of immense scale and visual splendour! Vivid emerald, violet tints, intense blue and crimson light – the Antarctic Peninsula is anything but a world of white desolation. Our 11-day Antarctica Classic expedition introduces you to the magic of the South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula, home to some of the planet's most impressive wildlife and most dramatic landscapes. Encounter whales, huge icebergs, enormous rookeries of penguins and stunning landscapes that few have ever witnessed. Throughout the voyage, our team of lecturers and guides will share their knowledge of the region's remarkable natural history.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrive in Ushuaia

Arrive in Ushuaia at any time. Arrival transfer is included. Enjoy the sights and sounds of the world's most southerly city. There will be a welcome desk in the lobby of the hotel that will provide more specific information on the expedition and your upcoming adventure. Please note that the first night in Ushuaia is on twin share basis. If you're travelling solo or have an odd number of travellers in your group and have not purchased a private room, you will be paired with another solo traveller of the same gender.



TRIP CODE
ACTSACL
DEPARTURE
22/11/2025, 12/12/2025, 02/01/2026, 30/01/2026, 04/03/2026, 13/03/2026, 22/03/2026, 22/11/2026, 12/12/2026, 02/01/2027, 30/01/2027, 04/03/2027, 13/03/2027
DURATION
11 Days
LOCATIONS
Antarctic Peninsula


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DAY 2: Embarkation

Enjoy a free morning in Ushuaia, to do any last minute shopping, explore the town, or visit the surrounding countryside. Embarkation on the MS Expedition begins in the afternoon at the port in Ushuaia. You and your fellow passengers will take the group transfer to port to begin your journey. Once onboard, enjoy the evening sailing through the Beagle Channel. Your Expedition Leader will give you an expedition overview outlining what the specific plans are for your trip. ** Expedition travel can be full of surprises! While it is our intention of adhere to the itinerary described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations.



DAY 3: Drake Passage & South Shetland- Day 3 & 4

Our adventure begins with an 1000km (800 mile) crossing of the passage that bears the name of the 16th century English explorer Sir Francis Drake. Take in daily lectures from the expedition team and keep an eye out for the first sightings of icebergs, whales and albatross following in the MS Expedition's wake. The M/S Expedition is at home in this part of the Southern Ocean, known for the unimpeded fetch of the winds that encircle the Antarctic. On the second day we cross the Antarctic Convergence, a meeting of cold polar water flowing north and warmer equatorial water moving in the opposite direction. This mixing pushes nutrient rich waters to the surface attracting a variety of seabirds, whales and other species. As we make the passage you have time to become acquainted with the ship and frequent the common areas that include the lounge, dining hall, library and lecture hall where you meet your guides, ship's crew and expedition staff. We also begin the lecture and information sessions to learn the extraordinary human and natural history of the Antarctic region.



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DAY 5: Antarctica and South Shetland - Day 5 to 8

This is what we've all been waiting for - a chance to step foot on the Great White Continent to experience some of the most unique wildlife viewing and inspiring scenery in the world! Over the next four days we will navigate southwards making stops in the South Shetland Islands then through the Bransfield Strait and on to the Antarctic Peninsula. Our goal is to attempt two excursions per day while we navigate through the area but our itinerary and daily schedule will be based on the local weather and ice conditions that we encounter. During the voyage, learn about the Peninsula's remarkable history and encounter gentoo, chinstrap and Adélie penguin rookeries, Weddell, crabeater and leopard seals as well as orca, humpback and minke whales in the cold Antarctic waters.



DAY 9: Return through the Drake Passage - Day 9 & 10

Begin the journey north to the home port of Ushuaia. Review the highlights of the Antarctic experience with the lecturers and staff. Keep sharp eyes on the observation deck for some last-minute whale sightings. Leave Antarctica and head north across the Drake Passage. In between bird watching and whale watching and enjoying some final lectures by the expedition staff, this is a chance to relax and review the adventures of the past week before returning to Ushuaia. Remember, the best way to experience the wildlife of the Drake Passage is to be on deck keeping a look out for Albatross, Prions, and Whales!.



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DAY 11: Disembark in Ushuaia

Disembark after breakfast. In the morning upon completion you will disembarkation in Ushuaia. Passengers will receive a complimentary transfer to either the airport or a central location where luggage can be stored. For those on morning flights, a transfer will bring them directly to Ushuaia airport (USH). The rest of the passengers will be transferred to the luggage storage point and given time to explore the city. These passengers should then return to retrieve their luggage and board a second transfer to Ushuaia airport in the afternoon, depending on their flight times. Please note that the transfer times are subject to change according to flight schedules.
 *Please note: Cruise itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions, ice conditions and other factors.
 ** Important - Please be sure not to book flights out of Ushuaia before 12PM (Noon) on the day of disembarkation from your cruise ship.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Hotel & Cabin on board a ship
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Inclusions	INCLUSIONS Accommodation on board during your voyage Pre night accommodation in Ushuaia hotel on twin share basis Group arrival and departure transfers in Ushuaia All Zodiac excursions, as per itinerary, guided by our Expedition Team English-speaking expedition team Expedition parka to keep Rubber boots on loan (USA sizes 4 - 16) Briefings and lectures by our Expedition Leader and Team English-speaking Expedition Team All meals whilst on board Free tea and coffee available 24 hours Taxes and landing fees
	EXCLUSIONS International or internal flights Extra excursions and optional activities not mentioned in the itinerary Single room supplements Meals not on board the ship Beverages (other than coffee and tea) Tips for the crew (we recommend USD 15 per person per day) Personal expenses such as laundry, bar and onboard communication Mandatory waterproof pants for Zodiac landings and excursions Travel and medical insurance (compulsory) Pre or post cruise travel expenses Visa (if applicable) and passport fees Fuel surcharge may be applied to all bookings Anything not mentioned under 'Inclusions'
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Willing to share available for no additional cost (Category 1, 2 and 3 cabins only). Surcharge applies for solo use cabin, contact us for pricing. Subject to availability.
Notes	Prices are based on per person, and may be based off triple/ or twin share cabins* (please contact us for more details) Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions.
Price Dependent upon	Departure Date, Fuel Surcharges, Cabin Category, Currency Fluctuations, Seasonality & Availability.

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SUSTAINABILITY

Chimu Adventures is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

A trip to the Antarctic is a completely different experience and quite unlike any other trip you have probably been on. We use a highly regulated, licensed vessel which is well equipped to operate in this vulnerable ecosystem. We are fully compliant with all rules set down by the IAATO and all activities are governed by the Antarctic Treaty System. We carefully select all ships we work with and choose them for their small size as this creates far less impact on shore landings with wildlife. We view the voyage to the Antarctic as an expedition, not a sightseeing trip. Smaller boats such as ours can navigate narrow waterways and are far less polluting than the larger ships in Antarctic waters. By carrying less passengers, we have far less waste, and all waste is carried back to the home port to allow for environmentally conscious waste management and disposal, unlike some of the larger ships which do not facilitate this. This trip begins in Ushuaia where you will have time to sample local food and shop at local boutiques which we encourage individuals to take part in for experience and in support of the local community. We discourage the buying of souvenirs made from endangered species or wrongfully taken from the environment i.e. shells. Our pre-departure pack provides you with all the information required for your tour, from what to take with you to practical advice about how to minimise your impact on the Antarctic environment. This pack highlights initiatives such as waste reduction, and how to appropriately engage with wildlife and the environment around you.

For more information visit our [sustainability page](#).

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